

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /133 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9731

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: SECOND EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

1. CGT FIRED FIRST SALVO IN WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED TO BECOME A CONCERTED CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE THE SECOND EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE AT THE END OF 1974 OR BEGINNING OF 1975. THAT TOOK THE FORM OF A STATEMENT FOR WFTU BULLETIN FLASHES BY RENE DUHAMEL, A CGT (NON-COMMUNIST) NATIONAL SECRETARY.
2. STATEMENT REFERS TO JANUARY 19 MEETING AS A TURNING POINT IN THE RELATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN EUROPE REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION AND POLITICAL ORIENTATION AND AS AN INSPIRATION OF GREAT HOPE FOR EUROPEAN WORKERS.
3. RECALLING THAT THE FRAMEWORK (ILO), PLACE (GENEVA), DATE (1974 OR 1975) AND AGENDA (HUMANIZATION OF THE JOB SITE) OF NEXT CONFERENCE HAVE ALREADY BEEN AGREED UPON, DUHAMEL CONTENTS THAT IT WAS AGREED LAST JANUARY THAT THE WORKERS GROUP IN THE ILO GOVERNING BODY WOULD

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ASSOCIATE ALL EUROPEAN UNIONS IN THE PREPARATION OF NEXT

CONFERENCE. HE GOES ON TO REGRET THAT CONSULTATIONS TO THIS END HAVE NOT EVER BEGUN.

4. WARNING THAT DELAYS SHOULD NOT SERVE AS A PRETEXT FOR A POOR PREPARATION OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONFERENCE, DUHAMEL CALLS ATTENTION TO FACT THAT JUNE ILO CONFERENCE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY TO START CONSULTATION AND PREPARATION PROCESS.

5. COMMENT: FOREGOING IS APPARENTLY CGT'S ANSWER TO ETCC AND ITS INSISTENCE ON A CONDITION OF AFFILIATION (SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS WITH WFTU) WHICH CGT IS UNWILLING TO MEET. WHAT STRIKES US AS SIGNIFICANT FROM TACTICAL POINT OF VIEW IS CGT'S READINESS TO ACCOMMODATE WESTERN LABOR LEADERS BY EMPHASIZING THAT ILO IS THE FRAMEWORK FOR EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE. ALSO SIGNIFICANT IS CGT'S INSISTENCE THAT ALL UNIONS BE INVOLVED IN PREPARATION OF CONFERENCE AND NOT ONLY THE ILO WORKERS GROUP WHICH IS PREDOMINANTLY DEMOCRATIC. IRWIN

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Disposition Authority: smithrj
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Disposition Reason:
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Type: TE
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